

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Italy/Yugoslavia

DATE DISTR. 11 Feb 1949

SUBJECT Yugoslav Attempts to Purchase Radar Equipment

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1A2g

25X1A6a

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ACQUIREDDATE OF INFO
25X1X6NO. OF ENCLS.
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REPORT NO.

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1. On or about 25 November 1948, a Yugoslav Commercial Mission arrived in Milan. Ostensibly its purpose was to negotiate with Fiat for the purchase of tractors, but actually the mission was to make arrangements for the purchase of radar equipment in Switzerland. The negotiations between the Yugoslavs and the Swiss could not be carried on directly because the Swiss demanded payment in a strong currency and the Yugoslavs reportedly had none available at the time.
2. The Commission contacted the "Antelco" firm in Milan, to which Yugoslavia was to supply large quantities of lumber. This firm is to pay the Yugoslavs in a strong currency and the Yugoslavs are to use the currency to effect the purchase of the radar equipment.
3. Engineer Milenko Djuric and Dusan Mezesic, members of the Commission, were notified on 11 December 1948 to return to Belgrade. To date Djuric has departed for Yugoslavia, but Mezesic is still in Milan.
4. It is also reported that (fnu) Grimani, brother-in-law of Dr. Ivo Antunac, former Commercial Counsellor in the Yugoslav Legation, Rome, is presently in Genoa and has been entrusted by the Yugoslav Government with the purchase of radar equipment in Switzerland and England.

Document

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Author

Date 15 MAY 1970

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INITIAL DATE

25X1X6

FEB 14 1 45 PM '49

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Approved For Release 1999/08/09 : CIA-RDP82-00457R002300670007-0

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